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THE

CONTINENTAL JOURNAL,

AND

WEEKLY ADVERTISER.

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1776. [NUMB. I.]

BOSTON: PRINTED BY JOHN GILL, IN QUEEN-STREET.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE PUBLISHER has complied with the solicitation of his Friends, in proposing to furnish the public with a News-Paper of Intelligence every THURSDAY, provided it meets with their approbation and encouragement. He chooses to omit all pompous representations and promises, respecting his intended publications, and only engages his utmost fidelity in collecting and printing the newest and best accounts of things that can be obtained; and will gratefully accept and insert any original pieces that are decent, and worthy the public notice.

Those who are willing to become his customers, may be supplied with his paper on the following TERMS, *viz.*

☞ Each subscriber to pay *eight shillings* lawful money per year, (exclusive of postage,) one half to be paid at entrance, the other at the end of the *first* six months.—The customers in town to have their papers left at their respective dwellings every Thursday.—— Advertisements inserted at the customary price, to be paid on receiving them—and none taken in after two o'clock on Wednesday, except in cases of necessity.

JUST PUBLISHED,
And to be sold by the printer hereof, (Price 6d)
THE
ART
OF MAKING
COMMON SALT.
Particularly adapted to the use of the
AMERICAN COLONIES.
WITH
An Extract from Dr. Brownrigg's Treatise on the
ART of making BAY-SALT.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23.

Extract of a Letter to the CONGRESS, dated Montreal, May 10, 1776.

"By Col. Campbell, who arrived here early this morning from Quebec, we are informed that two men of war, two frigates, and one tender, arrived there early on Monday the 6th instant. About 11 o'clock the enemy sallied out, to the number, as is supposed, of about 1000 men. Our forces were so dispersed at different parts, that not more than 200 could be collected together at head quarters. This small force could not resist the enemy. All our cannon, 500 muskets and about 200 sick, unable to come off, have fallen into their hands. The retreat was made with the utmost precipitation and confusion. However, Col. Campbell informs us that he imagines we have lost but very few men, except the sick above-mentioned.

"General Thomas was last Thursday evening at Dechambeau. At a council of war, it was determined to retreat to the mouth of the Sorel. This day Gen. Arnold goes down there, and if he can get information of the enemy's real strength, and it should be found inconsiderable, perhaps a council of war, on reconsideration, may think proper to march the army back to Dechambeau, which is now strengthened by Greaton's, Burrall's and Sinclair's regiments. Besides the above losses, our batteau loaded with powder, supposed to contain 30 barrels, and an armed vessel, which the crew were obliged to abandon, were intercepted by one of the enemy's frigates.

By order of Congress,
Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

Extract of a letter from an officer at Fort-George, April 20, 1776

"We came here two days ago, and found the Lake still closed with ice; yesterday it all vanished, when Dr. Franklin and the other Delegates immediately embarked on board batteaus and crossed the Lake. Our regiment, with sundry other troops from New-England and the Jerseys set out at day break this morning. The whole of the troops that are now on the Lake and here, will amount to upwards of 1500 men; so that I think we shall make a very respectable figure before Quebec, when we all arrive; and I hope we shall not lie long there, but endeavour immediately to see what the inside is made of."

NEW-YORK, May 20.

We hear, that several persons, by virtue of a resolve and order of the Congress, have by the general Committee of this city and county, been committed to prison, for refusing to deliver up on oath, to the order of the Committee, all their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, which were demanded of them, after they had refused to sign an association prescribed by Congress, to defend, by arms these United Colonies, against the hostile attempts of the British fleets and armies.

Extract of a Letter from Curracoa, April 13 1776.

By the accounts we have here, the French are determined to strike a blow somewhere, but it is not yet known where. I was at Port au Prince about five weeks ago, and they had upwards of 3000 soldiers there, and as many more at Cape Francois; *God knows their intent.* Hispaniola is made a free port to all nations to take in sugars and coffee. The French people in general are sorry for the unhappy times; their constant toasts are Generals Washington and Lee.

Friday last information was given to our Congress that some men on Long Island were counterfeiting Continental money, also Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New-York currency; a party of minute men were ordered out the same day, in search of them; they were all taken with what cash they had struck off; likewise their press, tools, &c. They were yesterday brought to town and committed to goal.

Extract of a Letter from General Schuyler, dated Fort George, May 13, 1776 to the committee of Albany.

"Gentlemen,

"Some ships of war with troops arrived the 4th instant at Quebec, which obliged our troops to raise the siege. We left about 200 of our sick, who were too ill to be removed, and a few others who were out upon detached party guards, some of our cannon, and almost all our provisions. so that our army suffers much for want of victuals, as none are to be had in Canada.

Thursday last 24 Indians, the chiefs of several indian nations, arrived here from Albany; We hear they are to set out for Philadelphia in a few days, in order to wait on the Hon. the Continental Congress.

MAY 23.

By an officer from before Quebec, and who left point Dechambeau on the 9th instant, we learn that the small pox had got into our army at Quebec, which rendered many of them unfit for service; that there were but about 200 effective men at head quarters when the sally was made, the rest of the army having been dispersed in different parts, for the conveniency of quarters; that at head quarters they had neither entrenchments, breast-works, nor entrenching tools, and but six days provisions; that Gen. Wooster, Capt. Mott, and many others had left the place two day before the attack; that the body who sallied forth on our main army, did not appear to be regulars, but a part of the garrison; that all the artillery was lost; and consisted of, two 24, two 12, and several 6, and 4 pounders; some mortars, cohorns, and howitzers---all brass; with some iron pieces, of various sizes; that it was thought that about 100 men went off with the small pox on them, and that they were the better for it; that our posts generally got together and escaped; that there was no firing on either side; that General Thomas kept with himself but 500 men, on account of the scarcity of provisions, and with them intended to act on the offensive or defensive, as circumstances would allow; that the Canadians in general were for us; that great numbers of our troops, with provision, ammunition, &c. were on their way; and that it is to be hoped, a powerful army well appointed and provisioned, will, this campaign, retrieve our honour, and crown our important enterprize in that country with glory.

Extract of a letter from Montreal, May 1.

"On Sunday last arrived here Baron Woodike, and Col. De Haas, with Joseph Terry, of this place, accompanied by several other gentlemen of the army. And on Monday the Committee of the Honourable Continental Congress, for establishing and regulating the Continental Affairs in this Province, with the celebrated Dr. Franklin at their head. They were received on the beach at the Porte de Vaudrewil by Gen. Arnold, and the friends to liberty, and a salute was fired from the Citadel; being escourted to Head Quarters, they and a number of the friends to liberty spent the evening with decent mirth."

Yesterday a considerable firing of great guns was heard, and is supposed to be from the shipping at Sandy-Hook. The reason we have not been able to learn.

HARTFORD, May 20.

Capt David Hawley who came to town last Saturday from Halifax, (which place he left the 24th ult.) informs, That he left at said place the following vessels, viz. the Chatham of 50 Guns, Orpheus of 54 guns, Scarborough, Glasgow and Rose of 20 guns, the King Fisher, Tamer, and another of 16 guns, an armed Brig, two schooners, and two small sloops, and a number of transports; the Tamer and the Glasgow are sent home to refit. On the 24th of April the Niger frigate of 32 guns with two ships and a brig, having on board 700 troops sailed for Quebec. Five transports arrived at Halifax from the West-Indies with troops.—From the best information there were about 8 or 9000 troops at Halifax before any were sent away. On the 24th a packet arrived from England with accounts that about three regiments were lost on their passage to America; and by what he could learn they expected 20,000 troops to come to America this Spring and no more—That they designed to make their strongest effort at Quebeck and New-York—to open communication from one to the other, and to cut off all communications of the New England colonies with the southern; they are very anxious to know how the people stand affected, and whether there will great numbers join the ministerial army—The tories are in miserable circumstances, appear very melancholly and dejected; large families are huddled into small rooms, and some left on board the ships—Provisions are very scarce, beef is 1s. 3d. lb. the army and navy are at two thirds allowance; they don't seem to expect to drive the country, but to destroy us by sea.

May 27. We hear, the town of Canterbury, in a full meeting, have unanimously adopted the principles of independence contained in Common Sense; and also voted, that the Delegates for the Continental Congress ought to be elected by the freemen of the colony, and not by their representatives.

The infamous Capt M'Kay, who is so lost to every principle of honour as to violate his parole, and endeavour to make his escape, as mentioned in our last, was last Monday apprehended and taken by a number of gentlemen at Lainsborough, in Berkshire county, and on Wednesday following was safely brought to this town and lodged in the common goal. His servant, M'Farland, together with a certain John Greaves of Pittsfield, were likewise taken with him, and both are committed to prison.

Graves is an inhabitant of Pittsfield, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, where he has considerable property; but, being instigated by the devil, and his own wicked heart, he had undertaken to pilot Capt. M'Kay to Albany, and had procured from [illegible] at proper stages on the road to expedite his flight. QUERE, *What does the last mentioned Villain deserve?*

Last Thursday Governor Skeene, who has been some time past in this town, was committed to goal by order of the committee for the prisoners, for refusing to sign a parole.

2-55-17